Bank Branches in Gujarat

1757. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open more branches of commercial Banks in the country, particularly in Gujarat during 1997-98 to promote trade and commerce; and

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that for period 1990-95, there was no need for evolving any branch expansion programme with targets like population coverage per bank office as was done in the past, in view of the growth in branch network in the country and decline in the average population per bank office (APPBO) in rural and semi-urban areas to 13,000 by the end of the 1985-90 period.

Under the extant branch licensing policy of RBI, it is left to the judgement of individual banks to assess the need for opening additional bnak branches within their service areas. The banks' proposals for opening branches at rural centres are to be submitted to RBI through the concerned State Governments. As regards semi-urban centres, a specific quota is allotted to each bank depending on the size of the bank, for opening branches. The proposals for opening branches at semi-urban centres are considered by RBI on merits of each case. In respect of urban/metropolitan centres, identified localities are allotted to various banks for opening branches. Such proposals are also considered by RBI on merits of each case. RBI have also given freedom of Indian commercial banks which fulfil certain stipulated criteria for opening branches without prior approval of RBI on case to case basis.

The details of authorisations issued to various banks for opening branches at different centres in Gujarat where banks have yet to open their branches, as reproted by RBI, are given in the Statement attached.

Statement

Number of Authorisations /Licences Issued During the period 1-4-1995 to 30-6-1997 to Commercial Banks for Opening Branches in Gujarat and which are yet to open

Name of Bank	Number of Authorisations/ Licences
1	2
1. Punjab National Bank	5
2. ICICI Bank Corp. Ltd.	1
3. City Union Bank	1
4. Vyasya Bank	2
5. Bank of Punjab	1
6. State Bank of Saurashtra	4
7. Bank of Baroda	5
8. Bank of Rajasthan	2
9. Canara Bank	2
10. Sabarkantha Gramin Bank	1
11. Sangli Bank	1
12. Bank of India	1
13. Union Bank of India	1
14. IDBI Bank	2
15. Corporation Bank	8
16. Global Trust Bank	2
17. State Bank of India	2
18. Kutch Gramin Bank	1
19. Oriental Bank of Commerce	4
20. Ratnaker Bank	1
21. Federal Bank	1
22. Karnataka Bank	1
23. Centurion Bank	1
24. Syndicate Bank	1
25. Central Bank of India	1
26. Dena Bank	1
27. State Bank of Patiala	2
28. Allahabad Bank	1
29. Nedungadi Bank	1
30. Indus Ind Bank	1

Export of Coal

1758. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the production of coal during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of coal exported during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the above period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Details of coal production in the country during the last three years, State-wise, are as under :

(million tonnes)

State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Prov.)
Andhra Pradesh	25.65	26.77	28.73
Assam	1.19	0.82	0.75
Bihar	72.41	74.53	77.58
Madhya Pradesh	75.12	79.76	83.28
Maharashtra	21.00	22.82	24.86
Orissa	27.32	32.70	37.37
Uttar Pradesh	13.70	14.80	15.40
West Bengal	17.34	17.93	17.69
Total	253.73	270.13	285.66

(b) The quantity of coal exported by CIL during the last three years, Statewise, is an under:-

(In lakh tonnes)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
West Bengal	0.70	0.76	1.15
Bihar 0.37	0.16	0.14	
Assam	0.05	Nil	Nil

(c) Export to Nepal and Bhutan is made in Indian Rupees and that of Bangladesh it is made in US $. Foreign exchange earned by India, State wise, from export of coal during the last three years is as under :-

(Fig. in US $)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Prov.)
West Bengal	19.3 Lakh	14.4 Lakh	17.4 Lakh
Bihar	2.1 Lakh	Nil	Nil
Assam	Nil	Nil	Nil

Decline in Sea Borne Foreign Trade

1759. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sea borne foreign trade has declined recently;

(b) if so, reasons therefor;

(c) the share of Indian Shipping Corporations in general cargo trade; and

(d) the details of plans for raising the shipping foreign trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The volume of cargo carried by Indian ships has been generally increasing even though it declined during 1994-95. However, the percentage share of Indian lines in the carriage of sea borne cargo has been declining. It has came down from 34.90% in 1992-93 to 27.80% in 1995-96.

(d) The Government is taking various measures from time to time for raising the Indian foreign trade as well as Indian shipping tonnage. Indian shipping companies have been given freedom to trade their vessels as per their commercial judgement in cross trade without any obligation to carry Indian cargo.

Duty Free Import Licences

1760. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the duty free import licences have been issued by the Department of Foreign Trade during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number and value of fake licences issued during the above period;

(d) whether CBI has chargesheeted some officers at Panipat; and

(e) if so, the action taken to recover the amount of loss caused to the Government?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Duty Free Import Licences are issued by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade under the provisions of the Duty Exemption Scheme as laid down in Chapter VII of the Export and Import Policy and Procedures 1992-97 and 1997-2002. Details of such licences issued during the past 3 years are as under :-

Year	No. of Licences issued
1994-95	45983
1995-96	38400
1996-97	12774
Total	97157

(c) All precautions are taken to ensure that licences are issued only to genuine firms. However when instances